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24 January 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with McGeorge Bundy on Resumption of Bombing in North Vietnam

1. A three-way conversation with Mr. McGeorge Bundy and Mr. Sherman Kent, after Mr. Kent had briefed Mr. Bundy on the special target study we are doing for Mr. McNamara, took place with the undersigned this morning.

2. The following major conclusions were reached:

a. Mr. Bundy does not wish to interfere with the 6-8 week target study being done for Mr. McNamara, hence it remains as scheduled.

b. However, Mr. Bundy needs within three weeks a quick study on what might be done in the first phase of a resumption of bombing of North Vietnam -- first phase defined to last  $n$  weeks where  $n$  falls between one and ten. In this initial period:

(1) What are advantages and disadvantages (Bundy term -- pluses and minuses) to continuing present sanctuaries and rules? (Might want to write this up two ways -- continue with sanctuaries on one hand and without on the other.)

(2) What other targets (ex. food and folks in this phase) would present themselves as of value to assist in achieving objectives of Rolling Thunder?

3. In the future, Mr. Bundy would not rule out folks and food as target systems but did not think them likely at present.

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downgrading and  
declassification